



## ***Proposed Rule Revision***

# **Drinking Water Operating Permits – Surcharge Chapter 246-294 WAC**

August 2004

### **Systems affected**

All Group A Public Water Systems

### **Timelines and requirements**

#### **Water System Timelines and Requirements:**

Group A water systems with 100 or more residential services have been subject to the surcharge since June 2003. This surcharge will end in June 2007. The Department of Health (DOH) is now updating chapter 246-294 WAC, Operating Permits, to be consistent with state law.

#### **Federal Timelines and Requirements:**

There are no federally imposed timelines because this is a state rule.

### **Purpose of rule change**

The 2003 Legislature authorized DOH to charge an additional annual fee of twenty-five cents per residential service connection to fund the water use efficiency activities of the Municipal Water Supply Act – Efficiency Requirements (Chapter 5, Laws of 2003 First Special Session). The Office of Drinking Water will look at way to apply this fee in a cost effective manner.

### **Key issues of public interest**

DOH is considering excluding smaller water systems from the surcharge because it may not bring in enough revenue to warrant charging the fee. We will prepare an analysis to determine an acceptable threshold for charging smaller water systems.

### **Rule development timeline**

A CR-101 was filed on July 21, 2004 as WSR# 04-15-147. You can view this document on the web at:

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/wac/index.cfm?fuseaction=title&title=246>

#### **Regulation Timeline:**

- Develop Regulation – August 2004
- Stakeholder Comment Period – September/October 2004
- Public Hearing – November 2004
- Final Adoption – December 2004

### **For more information**

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You can also visit our website at:

[http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/Our\\_Main\\_Pages/regula.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw/Our_Main_Pages/regula.htm)